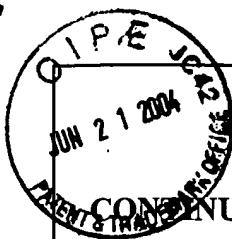


6-22-04

RCE
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IFW

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Application Number:	09/052,855
Filing Date:	3/31/1998
First Named Inventor:	Patricia A. Billing-Medel, et al.
Group Art Unit:	1642
Examiner Name:	Karen Canella, Ph.D.
Attorney Docket No.	ABB1207P1040US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously-filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - a. Previously submitted. If a final Office Action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office Action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - ii. Other: _____.
 - b. Enclosed:
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement
 - iv. Other: Two-Month Petition For Extension Of Time.
2. **Miscellaneous.** Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of:
 - a. _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____
3. **Fees.** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

For	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Small Entity		Large Entity	
				Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Basic Fee					\$385.00	OR	\$770.00
Total Claims	10	20		x \$9.00	\$	OR	x \$18.00
Indep. Claims	7	3	4	x \$43.00	\$	OR	4 x \$86.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Present				+ \$145.00	\$	OR	+ \$290.00
				TOTAL	\$	OR	TOTAL \$1,114.00

06/24/2004 AWONDAF1 00000023 09052855

01 FC:1801
02 FC:1201770.00 QP
344.00 QP

U.S. Serial No. [Application No.]

Page 1 of 2

A check in the amount of \$1,114.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0785.

i. RCE filing fee
 Extension of time fee
 Other _____

4. **Correspondence Address:** WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER
Citicorp Center, Suite 3800
500 West Madison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511
Telephone: (312) 876-1800
Facsimile: (312) 876-2020

Customer Number: 32116

Date: June 21, 2004

Attorney's Signature



Lisa V. Mueller, Reg. No. 38,978

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

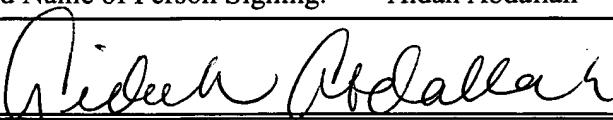
I hereby certify that this Request For Continued Examination Transmittal and any other documents referred to as enclosed herein, are being deposited in an envelope with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Express Mail Label No.: EV 348826495 US

Date of Deposit: June 21, 2004

Typed/Printed Name of Person Signing: Aidah Abdallah

Signature:





PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: P.A. Billing-Medel, et al.

Serial No.: 09/052,855

Filed: March 31, 1998

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL FOR
DETECTING DISEASES OF THE
GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT

Attorney Docket No.: 6064.US.P1

Examiner: Karen Canella, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit: 1642

Certificate of Mailing:

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent by Express Mail No. EV348826495 US to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 21, 2004.



Aidah Abdallah

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being submitted in connection with the Office Action mailed on January 27, 2004 in the above-identified application. A two-month extension of time to respond is requested, and the fee therefore accompanies this paper. A Request for Continued Examination and the fee therefor accompanies this amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 23-0785 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 which may be required by this paper. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.